

Congratulations !



so, you're a

Newly Elected County Attorney...

and you think you have



 Position . . .

 Power . . .

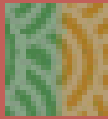
 Influence . . .





Well, think again.



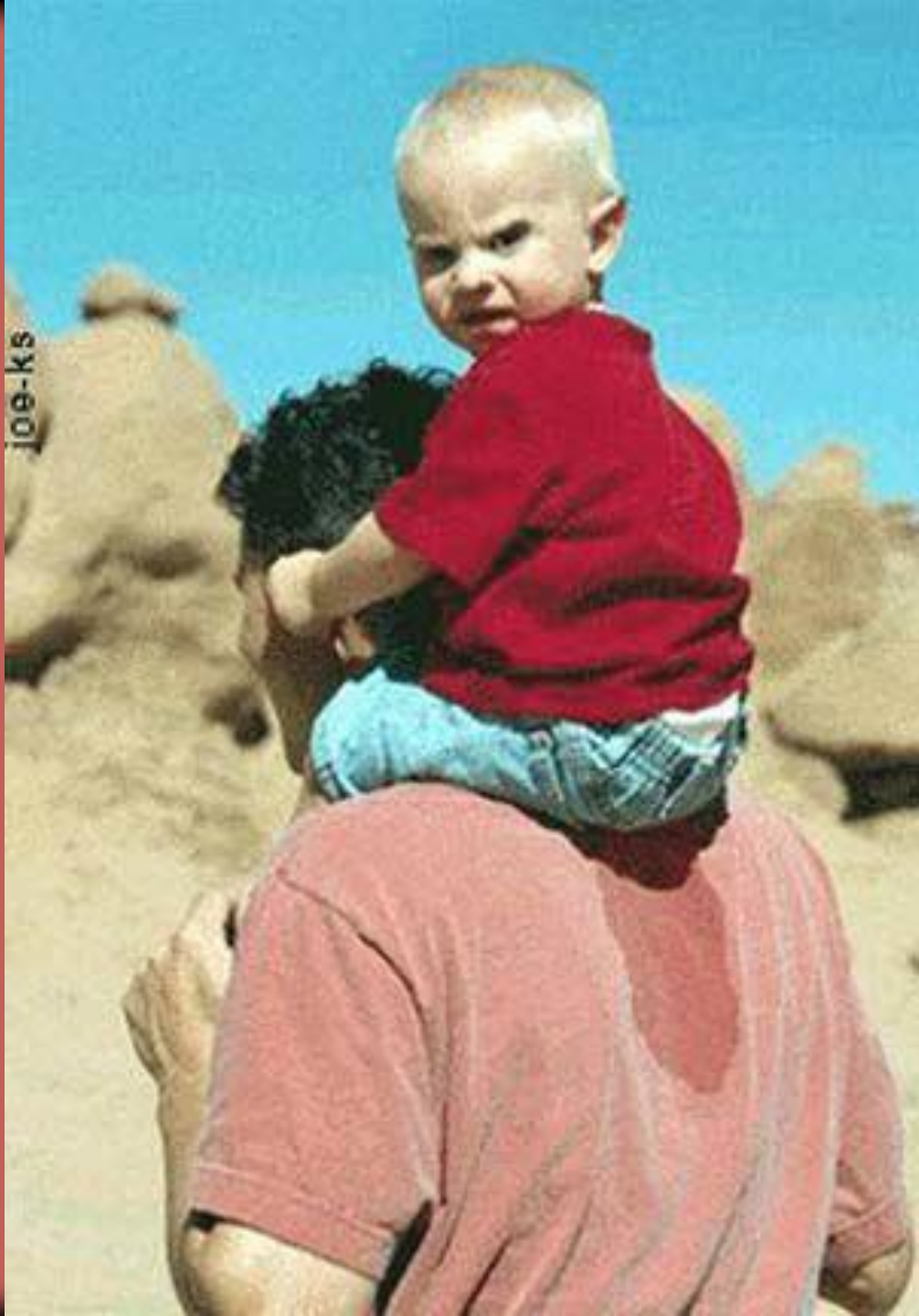


Coming to the job

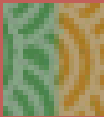




Exiting the job



Jk

 You're in for the
time of your life





Eric Petersen / The Livingston Enterprise






The Team




§ 17-53-101. County officers

 The elected officers of a county are:

 county commission members;

or

 county legislative body members
and the county executive;



a county treasurer,
a sheriff,
a county clerk,
a county auditor,
a county recorder,
a county attorney, a district attorney
(in prosecution district),
a county surveyor, and a county
assessor





§ 17-53-106. Supervision of county elected officers—

- “professional duties” means a county elected officer’s functions, duties, and responsibilities specifically provided for by law and includes:
 - (a) the **exercise of professional judgment and discretion** reasonably related to the officer’s required functions, duties, and responsibilities; and
 - (b) the **management of deputies and other employees** under the supervision of the elected officer under statute or county ordinance, policy, or regulation.



(2) (a) A county legislative body and a county executive each:

 (i) *may generally direct and supervise* all elected county officers and employees to ensure compliance with general county administrative ordinances, rules, or policies;

 (ii) *may not direct or supervise* other elected county officers or their sworn deputies with respect to the performance of the professional duties of the officers or deputies;



§ 17-53-315. Actions--Control and direction

■ (1)(a) A county executive may control and direct the prosecution, defense, and settlement of all lawsuits and other actions:

- (i) to which the county is a party;
- (ii) as to which the county may be required to pay the judgment or the costs of prosecution or defense; or
- (iii) as further provided by county ordinance.





(2) If a lawsuit or other action is brought or prosecuted by another elected official or a board or other entity of the county under a statutory duty, that other elected official, board, or other entity may control and direct the lawsuit or other action, consistent with applicable law.



COUNTY AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

- Powers and duties of public prosecutor
- Civil legal advisor to the county
- Enforce compliance with the Open and Public Meetings Act
- Collect debts accruing to the county
- Prosecute and defend actions where the county is a party
- Give written opinions to county officers relating to duties of their offices
- Review and approve as to form each contract, ordinance, regulation, conveyance, etc.
- Attend legislative meetings – hearings as necessary





Law of the Harvest

 If you sow wild oats . . .





 Never become complacent









Pay attention to detail and any
potential downside to your
opinions








Communicate with other officials, but make sure that everyone is listening.






 Pay careful attention to the
budgeting process





 Make sure your opinions are in writing so there are no misunderstandings.



PROFESSIONALISM

 Visible

 Accessible

 Responsive

 Accurate

